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5736
PATENT
9/A
B. Webb
12/3/02

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Trudi Thompson
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Applicant: **Casscells et al.**
Serial No.: **09/188,661**
Filed: **November 9, 1998**
Title: **METHOD & APPARATUS FOR DETECTION OF VULNERABLE ATHEROSCLEROTIC PLAQUE**
Group Art Unit: **2727**
Examiner: **Unknown**
Docket No.: **21120-104**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as outlined below.

In the Claims:

Please add the following new claims:

36. (New) A system for diagnosing an atherosclerotic plaque at risk of rupture or thrombosis, comprising:

a catheter having a proximal end and a distal end and having an illumination lumen and a detection lumen therein;

one or more optical illumination fibers within said illumination lumen, said optical illumination fibers capable of transmitting approximately 400 to 2500 nm wavelength radiation;

one or more optical detection fibers within said detection lumen, said optical detection fibers capable of transmitting approximately 400 to 2500 nm wavelength radiation;

a light source operatively linked to the proximal end of said catheter, said light source capable of emitting approximately 400 to 2500 nm wavelength radiation;

a spectrometer operatively linked to said one or more optical detection fibers;

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